March 25, 2008

For more information, contact:

Linda Hutson at 318.445.2773

Food Bank of Central Louisiana

Congressman Rodney Alexander & Suddenlink Sponsors "Can Share" Food Drive

The Food Bank of Alexandria is holding the fifth annual "Can Share" food drive in our community April

7-25. The event is held in partnership with Congressman Rodney Alexander, Suddenlink, and area

schools. Students, faculty, and administration are asked to collect food to help the less fortunate in their

community. The food drive will be conducted in the following parishes: Allen, Avoyelles, Catahoula,

Concordia, LaSalle, Rapides, and Winn.

Suddenlink, the corporate sponsor of the food drive, will award the schools collecting the most food with

prize money at the elementary, junior high, and high school levels. The first place schools will receive

\$500, second place will receive \$250, and third place schools will receive \$100.

Alexander believes strongly in the work of the Food Bank and this project. "Our area is one of the most

impoverished in the nation, one where parents cannot afford to feed their children. Nutrition is essential

for maintaining good health, and unhealthy adults are not productive and unhealthy children cannot

learn," stated Alexander. "The Food Bank is very constructive in promoting a thriving community, and I

am proud of the students for their effort in this endeavor," he continued.

"There are many advantages to this project. The students learn about volunteering and charitable work

within their own community, and their schools have the opportunity to receive a financial prize. All of

the food collected is donated to the agencies within the parish," said Jayne Wright, executive director of

the Food Bank of Central Louisiana.

"It is our goal that the Can Share food drive will raise awareness of the need in our community and will

provide much needed food for the Food Bank," stated Tony Cifelli, field system manager for Suddenlink

Communications.

Schools interested in participating in the "Can Share" food drive should contact the Food Bank at 318.445.2773.

The Food Bank of Central Louisiana is a non-profit organization whose mission is to alleviate hunger in central Louisiana. The Food Bank distributes food and grocery products to needy families through a network of approved charitable agencies in the following eleven parishes: Allen, Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Natchitoches, Rapides, Sabine, Vernon and Winn.

For more information about the "Can Share" food drive or the Food Bank of Central Louisiana, contact Linda Hutson at 318.445.2773.